

THE STROBE

FITCHBURG STATE COLLEGE'S NEWSPAPER

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SGA organizes student body

Students need to work to save higher education

by Todd Weldon
Strobe staff

It happened April 4 on the quad during the all-college hour. In response to Governor Weld's proposals to merge and/or close some state colleges, raise tuitions no less than 33 per cent of the total cost (\$800 - \$1000 increases), impose mandatory furloughs upon state employees, and change all scholarships to loan programs - which would require reimbursement, the Student Government Association organized a campus rally to inform students of just what is happening.

"Students are in the dark. They need to be informed," said Student Trustee, Julie Flynn. "We don't want to name names (of any college or university)", stated Flynn, "It's not that we're nervous, we just know that it's unrealistic to close schools."

In the 1989/1990 academic year, more than 9,000 qualified applicants were turned away from public higher education systems and more than 1,000 classes were canceled.

Though the Senate Means and

Ways Committee passed the furlough bill, according to Professor of Education, Ron Colbert, classes will continue. Fitchburg State college faculty have been furloughed according to their salaries. A professor who earns a higher salary will

"We don't want to make enemies, we want him (Weld) to see our point."

Julie Flynn, Student Trustee

work more days without pay. Colbert, who has been furloughed for 7 days, explains that although professors will not be paid, they are still expected to work. Presently, the faculty's union is going to the courts to fight the furlough bill.

Each year, PHE provides Massachusetts with 7,000 state college graduates qualified to enter the work force. They are equipped with knowledge, skills, and experience vital to the future of Massachusetts.

One plan of action involves an organized marching band with a press conference in Boston on April 17.

cane or even limp; but the pain is still there. He has undergone a series of operations and is presently undergoing physical and psychological therapy. He said that the arrest was traumatic for him psychologically because no one wanted to talk about it.

He has sought help through FSC faculty and administration and most have been very supportive. The day of his arrest, he missed a test and two classes. But for the most part, he feels that FSC wants to hush this matter up. Witnesses who saw the incident which led to the arrest of Gallagher did not want to come forward.

Gallagher was hurt by this incident and claims that he respects authority, but "I've lost faith in FSC. This school has a long way to go, especially with the handicapped." Gallagher was arrested for being disorderly. He said that he repeatedly asked Officer Jackson for his name and badge number prior to the arrest but Officer Jackson refused. After Gallagher was cuffed, he was marched to the public safety building in pain because the handcuffs were too tight. When asked if the handcuffs had any ramifications on his back he said "Yes."

Resumes will be hand delivered to businesses and legislators. Upon delivery of the resumes from the 29 public colleges and universities, students will state, "We are the future's trained labor force. If you, Governor Weld, close public colleges and universities, you will lose your qualified labor force."

SGA president James Buckley said, "It will be a slap in their face."

Flynn says the resume march is a visual for the press, which means economic vitality for the state. "We don't have natural resources," she said, "we have the brains to keep Massachusetts alive."

Buckley believes that with this approach, students will be bringing a personal touch to the security of PHE. Instead of repeating a big rally event as in the fight against Question 3, Buckley suggests continuing the constant state house lobbying and using smaller events to draw media attention.

Students should remember to focus their needs to change Weld's and the legislator's minds. Flynn added that, "We don't want to make enemies, we want him (Weld) to see our point."

FSC Furloughed

by Michael Shelton
Strobe staff

tract with the state," said Dr. Burke, "We feel that the program itself is unconstitutional."

Unfortunately, Professor Burke believes that the court action will not be settled one way or the other before the Fall semester.

In the interim, the Higher Educational Leadership Committee, a coalition representing state college faculty, is attempting to coordinate some form of organized protest against both the furlough program and next semester's proposed \$93 million budget cut to higher education.

Burke stated that most state colleges, including Fitchburg State College, have voted against protest measures that target students such as withholding grades or boycotting finals.

"We don't want to protest in a way that hurts the students," explained Burke, "we want to work with them, not against them. The new state budget which begins on July 1 will have a negative impact on their education and students need to be aware of that."

Professor Burke said that the H.E.L.C. will try to coordinate a state-wide plan of protest with state college students as soon as they have chosen their own course of action.

The state furlough program was originated by Governor Weld and passed by the Massachusetts legislature as part of the "Emergency Cost Reduction Plan" designed to reduce the state deficit. Each of the over 63,000 workers on the state payroll (excluding state judges) who make at least \$20,000 annually are being forced to take part in the program.

Fitchburg State College faculty must take an average of about eight furlough days each before the end of the fiscal year which is June 30. All FSC employees were required to submit a schedule of the days they plan to take their furloughs last Friday.

All College Development Day

by Daniel Dobransky
Strobe staff

The much anticipated All College Development Day will be held on Thursday, April 18. "Diversity and Community" the theme for the day, has to deal with the diverse races in our culture and however one can better understand living together as one in the community. All segments of Fitchburg State College; students, faculty, administrators, secretaries, custodians are

invited to join in on the activities for the day. The Undergraduate Dean, Elaine Gardiner strongly urges the students of Fitchburg State to come and participate.

Gardiner has released the schedule of speakers and activities for the All College Development Day:

(The location of each activity to be announced)

(continued to page 7)

Letters to the Editor

SGA Election results

Dear Editor:

Two weeks ago in this space, Andy Baron of the Fitchburg Sentinel chose to attack my article "FSC Student Assaulted." I believe that his accusations were so ridiculous that they demand an answer.

First, some background: Back in late February, the Sentinel printed Andy Baron's account of the alleged assault on FSC student William Thompson by a group of Fitchburg youths. Baron's article included only interviews with the alleged attackers on their version of what happened. No mention was made of Thompson's side of the story.

I think anyone would agree that an article with only one side of a story is something less than fair. Andy Baron says that he couldn't reach Thompson in time to get his story and I have no doubt that he did indeed try to get both sides of the story for his article - the point is that he didn't.

I was able to interview William Thompson and he was overjoyed for the chance to finally tell his side of the story. Thompson said he felt very frustrated that his assailants were quoted in the Sentinel when he claimed no one had tried to get in touch with him. My article included both Thompson's account of the assault and the accounts of his attackers which I quoted from the Sentinel.

Baron never bothered to go back and get Thompson's story after his first article. Apparently, he decided that printing the whole truth wasn't important enough to merit a follow-up article. However, Baron was strongly opposed to my article in The Strobe - presumably he didn't like the idea of a mere college paper filling in the details he had skipped over.

Baron called my article "one-sided and lazy reporting" but I leave the reader to decide which article warrants that description. I have to discount Baron's assertion that I "let the FSC student population and administration down" by bringing a neglected student's story to press. To me this sounds like a personal attack from a bruised ego and not a professional complaint.

I would like to remind Mr. Baron that journalism is supposed to be a fair and balanced account of the truth. A reporter who does not present all the facts should not be surprised or angry if he doesn't have the final word on a story. I am very disappointed that a professional journalist would chastise anyone for trying to tell the complete truth.

Sincerely,

Michael Shelton
Staff writer
The Strobe

Dear Editor:

In the past weeks, The Strobe has received a series of letters expressing "outrage" with my photo on the cover of the February 27th issue and my "extremely poor taste to express that opinion at that particular time" (Andrea Mulligan). In the next couple of paragraphs I would like to explain exactly how appropriate the sign, in fact was and question the legitimacy of the Support the Troops movement, but first - a little history on what led me to my most intolerable act.

On January 15, 1991, hours before the UN deadline went into effect, a crowd of 5,000 merged on the gates of Westover Air Force Base in Chicopee, MA. Each one silently held a candle in protest of the war that was about to begin in the Gulf. In celebration of his birthday, speakers recited Dr. King's speech on Vietnam. In that speech, Dr. King emphasized the need to "clean our own house first before venturing off to war on the other side of the world."

These thoughts still hold true today. One would think now that America has beaten Iraq it would now take on a formidable opponent like the almost forty percent illiteracy rate, the widespread homelessness, the widespread unemployment, or how about the black infant mortality rate, and who could ever forget public education. Certainly there must be better uses for our tax dollars than Tomahawk missiles.

Anyway, the demonstration peacefully paced its way through the night until 11:30 p.m. when the police ordered the crowd to disperse. Many went home, however, many refused to leave. Some 70 people were so caught up in the spirit of Dr. King's words that they couldn't go home and wait for the war to happen.

One man arrested (and by the way the charge was Disturbing the Peace) was a Vietnam veteran who had served two combat tours in 1968 and 1969 with the 196th Light Infantry Brigade. He said he was getting arrested in opposition to the war because he didn't want any "good young American men to have to carry the same kind of baggage he'd been carrying for 25 years." Others arrested included students, old folks, and even some members of the clergy, who had sealed themselves in body bags.

It was then, on the night of January 15, 1991 that I unexpectedly brought home a couple of extra things; a memory of brave people being true to themselves and what they believed in, and a quote from Dr. King that stated "if you believe something is wrong and you passively watch it take place than

you are in fact abiding it." Along with that notion I found an un-tapped core of energy I could entirely devote to opposing this dark-aged concept of war.

In remembrance of Dr. King, I simply wrote THIS WAR IS WRONG on the bottom half of the sign I so "obnoxiously" displayed at the February 21 rally on the quad.

The first half of my sign was the shortened version of a quote from Malcolm X. "You're not supposed to be so blind with patriotism that you can't see reality. Wrong is wrong, no matter who does it or who says it." (Malcolm X, Speaks Out)

February 21 was the anniversary of Malcolm X's assassination. No matter how inappropriate it may have been to you, I'm sure the man said it for occasions like the one on the quad that day.

Some people said that the rally wasn't related to the war but was meant to "Support the Troops," but what does that mean? Does this mean that since the government has given our Armed Services a job to do and since they are under contract to follow orders, we should give them moral support in order to keep their morale high, because we love them? Sure?

Yet before you do any of that shouldn't you ask whether or not what they are doing there is right. By saying that there should have been no protesting the war you are saying that despite your opinion of right or wrong you are still willing to subject your loved ones to the horrors of war.

I've heard so many people say "Oh I'm against the war but I support the troops." If you are against the war then you shouldn't have to support the troops because they shouldn't be there in the first place. In America you don't have to sit on the fence and watch it happen and say "what a shame." In fact if you truly care, you could have gone outside your house or over to the quad and demanded their return. That's the idea of America.

According to Mark Cassio Troop Supporter, on February 21, 1991 I was a "black sheep in a large field of Red, White and Blue. The quad was filled with enthusiastic troop supporters and true Americans." But it was they who looked more like sheep to me, bleating what they'd been told to bleat.

A letter by Andrea Mulligan stated: "In fact, the only political opinion expressed concerning the war itself, aside from Sean's was in letter form written by a soldier now in the Gulf." This however is not a fact, because Ms. Mulligan forgot to mention the statement by rally coordina-

tor Eric Berg. "What can I say?...This guy's a psycho and we gotta get him outta there!" This statement alone dismisses all notions that the rally was anything but Pro-War.

For those who were not there for Pro-War reasons yet still indulged in the enthusiasm I would like to thank you for exposing our youngest generation to man's most despicable side, war.

Lets get this straight now, war is quite simply mass murder. It is nothing but that and by you supporting troops, wearing ribbons, and waving flags you are romanticizing mass murder. War is death and like every other generation we've made it glorious and appealing to our children.

Students of Fitchburg State; let it be known there are hundreds of thousands of Iraqis dead, men women and children and one of the greatest ecological disasters is just getting started and won't be able to be stopped for years. So while you're patting each other on the back congratulating one another on a swift, easy victory, just remember to wipe the bloods off your hands first.

Sincerely,

Sean Kenneally

Dear Editor:

I would like to commend Laurie Hamilton for single handedly initiating, organizing, and implementing Fear No People Week.

For one individual to do what she did was admirable and inspiring. She mobilized a mass of people and raised awareness. It is truly wonderful what one person can really do.

People always say "Well, what can I do?" Laurie Hamilton showed us what "I" can do.

Thanks Laurie.

Sincerely,

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S.S.A.M. fights for State Colleges

by Daniel Dobranksy
Strobe staff

The State Student Association of Massachusetts (S.S.A.M.) is an influential organization that speaks for the Massachusetts' public college student by working to keep the cost of public higher at an affordable level. According to the organization's brochure, "S.S.A.M. believes your public higher education is a right, not a privilege." S.S.A.M. fights for this right by lobbying at the state house and publicly speaking in front of the Board of Regents and other state college administrators.

S.S.A.M. has had some recent success over the past few years by influencing decisions of the state government towards public higher education. For example, in 1988 S.S.A.M. was able to keep the state tuition increase to only 8% instead of the proposed 15%, and to 6% instead of 7.2% in 1984. S.S.A.M. was also a major force in helping to turn away Question 3, Citizens for Limited Taxation.

Recently, Joseph Langis, Executive Director of S.S.A.M., spoke at a public hearing to an-

nounce that S.S.A.M. opposes Weld's proposed 33% tuition increases, sliding scale tuition increases (based on family income), proposed merger of colleges, and scholarship-to-loan conversion programs. Langis believes the scholarship to loan conversion would be devastating to any student who relies on a scholarship to afford college. Many students who are on scholarships cannot afford to pay them back. S.S.A.M. strongly believes that members of the Governor's Special Education Commission to the Consolidation and Closures of State Colleges and Universities should be past or present state college students. "It is only fitting that a panel convened to determine the fate of state colleges include those educated in state colleges," Langis believes.

Langis also spoke about how S.S.A.M. opposes Weld's plans for having one secretary in place of the Board of Regents because S.S.A.M. doesn't feel "one person should have the power to decide which colleges to close and which ones not to." S.S.A.M. does support Weld's proposal of the abolition of the Board of

Regents because the Regents have a limited amount of power in the government. Instead of replacing the Board of Regents with one secretary, S.S.A.M. believes in a governing board that would be mutually in charge of tuition and fees at state colleges. Currently, the Board of Regents is in charge of tuition at state colleges while the board of Trustees is in charge of the special fees that are added on to college tuition bills. The cost of state higher education becomes extremely expensive if both the Regents and the Trustees raise their cost together.

Presently, S.S.A.M. is made up of approximately 180,000 students in 17 public institutions across Massachusetts. Fitchburg State College is not an acting member in S.S.A.M. because a vote a few years ago took the special S.S.A.M. waivable fee (\$2) off of students' tuition bills.

If you would like more information about the State Student Association of Massachusetts, contact Joseph Langis at (617) 357-1995 or write: State Student Association of Massachusetts, 162 Boylston Street Fourth Floor, Boston, MA 02116

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Will the people who filled out the Campus Center Survey please stop by the Campus Center office to see Reb Rebillard.

On Friday April 19, WXPL will be presenting Beyond Id with Furious George in the Campus Center Pub. Admission is free. Positive ID required to drink.

The College Forum (for men only) will now meet on Mondays from 7:30-8:30p.m. Meetings are held at Counseling Services, located on the third floor of the Hammond Building.

Body Image and Your Self Esteem meets on Tuesdays from 7:00-8:00p.m. Meetings are held at Counseling Services, located on the third floor of the Hammond Building.

The Fitchburg State First Responders Squad is hosting CPR Day on May 4, 1991. The First Responders hope to train 200 people in the performance of Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation. A donation of \$15 dollars is required which will help the Responders purchase their insurance, bandages and other supplies. Sessions will be held in the morning and afternoon. If interested contact the First Responders Squad through campus mail, box # 1028.

Counseling Services will be sponsoring Adult Children of Alcoholic meetings every Thursday throughout the semester. Meetings are from 3:30-5:30p.m. in room 312 of the Hammond Building.

Assertion Training classes are still being held on Thursdays from 6:00-7:00p.m. at Counseling Services.

Di's Diary

Heinous Heartaches

by Dianne Brown
Strobe staff

As the warm weather approaches, people begin to shed their winter sweaters along with their winter wimps who are still under the impression that love is still flourishing. While investigating this Ultra Violet phenomenon, I have stumbled upon the never before researched complexity of the human heart. It is viciously sadistic.

As a rule, I never trust anything that has blood in it only half the time. The human heart is not, in fact, the cute little symmetrical charm we so often admire. In actuality, it's a blood sucking fleshy gum wad with tubes hanging out of it. Disgusting as it may look, I am still bigger than it and shouldn't let it push me around. Unfortunately, it is also one of my major organs and is the only thing that does push me around. The idea that evolution felt the need to form a cage of ribs around the little satanic thumper worries me, though.

It seems that whenever I'm attracted to someone my heart begins to pound wildly. People attribute this to excitement and shirk it off. In reality, my heart is merely cackling hysterically at me and banging against its cage. My heart is also well aware that it had full access to my voice box. Regretfully, "Uh, d, do you, I mean, hi, hello I'm what you're name is," Is not ranked high among the most romantically intelligent first liners. My heart is amused by this.

Inevitably, the spring heartache comes. He "Needs his space." What is space, anyway? I'm small, I don't take up all that much space; get rid of the cat if you want space. What is this obsessive connection with atmospheric ownership and sudden romantic apathy? So I give him his dumb old space and take my wardrobe from his closet, my rolltop desk and my American Redwood seedling home. Never underestimate the therapeutic power of wallowing in self pity over a half gallon of Fudge Ripple and Night Court reruns.

As for my heart, it is suffering heartbreak. Which, actually, is misappropriately named because the heart doesn't really break. It is forced to endure the electrical shocks from the now awakening brain in hopes to teach the impulsive fool something. However, the lesson is futile. The heart lacks a brain of any variety and cannot learn. My heart is also a masochist. But we get even with Mr. Heart. I've incorporated mass quantities of cholesterol choked egg yolks into my diet. I can be heartless, too.

Meal Exchange

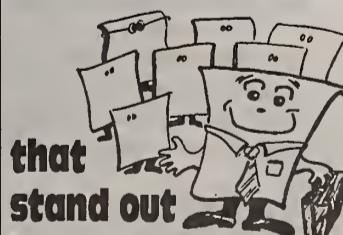
The meal interchange program which has been in effect since September 1989 will be eliminated at the end of this semester. This was a pilot program which grew rapidly in popularity resulting in an over use of the Campus Center Cafeteria. In peak weeks the number of meal plan students utilizing the program reached over 3,000. The large number of residence hall students taking advantage of this program directly impacted the commuting students and staff who found it difficult to use this cafeteria due to long lines and the restricted space available in the serving area. The added numbers adversely affected the commuters who had to eat in their time allotted between classes.

In order to accommodate these students who favored the interchange program, DAKA will be instituting a "Lunch to Go" program in the Holmes Dining Commons beginning this September. We regret having to eliminate a popular program but space constraints have left us no alternative.

The Strobe Staff

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FEATURES

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April 17, 1991

THE STROBE

STD rates above US average at FSC

by Mike Fatus
Strobe staff

There is a real problem among Fitchburg State College students of both unwanted pregnancies and sexually transmitted diseases, including AIDS, said Kathleen Martin-Estes of Student Health Services.

Since September, 27 percent of pregnancy test conducted by Health Services have been positive. This is down somewhat from the 89-90 school year, when 35 percent of pregnancy tests were positive, as opposed to the national collegiate average of only 16 percent. However, each April there is a higher incidence of positive tests, probably due to an increase in unprotected sex during spring break.

Though birth control pills can dramatically reduce the risk of pregnancy, the added danger of STD's makes the use of condoms an important option to consider. "Even if a person is on the pill in a new relationship, she

should have her partner use condoms," said Martin-Estes. Health Services offers counseling for students with problem pregnancies.

The rate of positive tests for STD's is also high at FSC. Sixteen percent of tests this school year have been positive, as opposed to the national average of just ten percent.

Especially worrisome to Martin-Estes is the presence of AIDS at FSC. There are students at FSC with AIDS, none of whom can be identified as such by their physical appearance. Contrary to popular misconception, the disease is now a real threat to heterosexuals. According to Martin-Estes, the number of new AIDS cases among homosexuals has greatly diminished in the past two years because "they accepted the fact that their high-risk behaviors were killing their friends." The greatest increase has been in the heterosexual population, and the disease is most common among those 16-28 years of age.

Preventing the spread of AIDS can be difficult, because people may have the virus and not know it. It takes an average of six months to two years for symptoms to appear, and in some cases has taken as long as seven years. According to the American College Health Association, one in every 250 adults has the virus, and Martin-Estes believes that those figures are probably getting worse.

Another problem in preventing the transmission of AIDS is informing people who may be infected. In the case of gonorrhea, health professionals are required by law to notify the sexual contacts of a person they have diagnosed as having the disease. Surprisingly, there is no such law for AIDS cases. "Therefore, our hands are tied," says Martin-Estes.

There is a free AIDS testing site at Pro Health on Main Street in Fitchburg. For information, call 345-6272 and ask for Max.

Students interested in pregnancy test or S.T.D. testing may contact Student Health Services. All tests are completely confidential.

FSC sponsors Mardi Gras '91

by James Finn
Strobe staff

noon and end with a barbecue at 6:00 p.m. For entertainment there will be a D.J. to play everyone's favorite music.

Another purpose of Mardi Gras '91 is to recruit students interested in joining BACCHUS. "BACCHUS is not made up of a bunch of non-drinkers," stated Sherrie Nickel-Millstone, "they are students who are responsible drinkers who would like to inform other students that they don't have to get drunk to have a good time."

If Mardi Gras '91 is a success it will become an annual event. Anyone interested in helping out in the festivities should contact Sherrie Nickel-Millstone in the Residence Life Office.

Kruse works with HIV victims

by Michelle Long
Strobe staff

By the early 1990's, more than 100,000 Americans were diagnosed as having AIDS. The Center for Disease Control estimates that there will be 80,000 additional cases in 1992 with the total number of cases rising to 450,000 by 1993.

Although originally thought of as a homosexual disease, intravenous drug users, hemophiliacs, young children, men and women alike, are being affected. AIDS has no boundaries.

As the number of cases increases, so does the hysteria among the public. But, while many people are shying away from those affected, there is one professor here on campus who is not.

A twenty-four year veteran at Fitchburg State College, Richard Kruse teaches Introduction to Speech Communication, Psychology of Speech and Communication, and Human Communication Technology. Kruse holds a BA in Speech from Dennison and a MED in Education with a concentration in speech and language pathology from Boston University. Before coming to Fitchburg State,

he was a Speech and Language Pathologist.

Kruse became interested in the AIDS epidemic after following its course in newspaper and magazine articles. "I was thinking about a career change and there was a need for trained workers. And I thought maybe that is what I should do."

While on sabbatical in 1989, he looked into counseling programs. He said that he wanted to become "more educated, more certified."

He eventually decided on Cambridge College. Kruse described the program as non-traditional. The faculty stressed scholarship, but also focused on the individual as a whole person. He sums up his experience there as "culturally enriching."

I didn't really see that many people with AIDS until my internship at Worcester Project AIDS in the fall of 1989," he said.

Currently Kruse is co-facilitator of a support group of people who are recovering addicts and HIV positive. He counsels both individuals and groups. This involves "a lot of listening."

Kruse pointed out that AIDS is both physically and mentally debilitating. He said "I also do a lot of empathizing with the struggle to live as best as one can with the

pressures that we all have plus having AIDS, being gay, or being a recovering addict."

People with AIDS are often very angry, anxious, depressed, or even suicidal. "I try to listen to the whole person and respond in a way that will help them feel that they have some power over their lives."

Kruse feels that he is not only helping others, but he is helping himself as well. "I learn a lot from them. I learn a tremendous amount. They inspire me."

One issue surrounding the AIDS epidemic is whether or not to give out sterile needles. Although there has been some success in other parts of the country, distributing needles in Massachusetts is illegal.

"I think it is worth a try," he says. "Because it has gotten to the point where nothing else seems to work. I say this because transmission of the virus by addicts is going up."

According to Kruse, a Fitchburg State Task Force on AIDS is in the process of being formed. There will also be an AIDS Awareness Day in October. Through a series of music, dance, drama, and a panel discussion given by people with AIDS, Kruse hopes that the major effect will be more sexual responsibility in relationships.

"Because of the natural reluctance of people to recognize this as

a real problem, AIDS has to be advertised. We need to continue to educate as many people as we can."

Besides education, Kruse stressed the need for working together. "We need a more unified approach on this campus. We need a more unified approach throughout the city; so people will know what is available and where to go."

Confidential testing is available at both Health Services here on campus and at Pro Health on Main Street in Fitchburg. There are also three support groups in the area. Meetings are held in Gardner at Henry Heywood

Hospital on the first Thursday of the month. For more information, call Jeannie at 632-3420 ext. 490. Meetings are held at St. Leo's Auditorium in Leominster every Tuesday night. For more information, call Theresa at 537-7902. In Fitchburg, meetings are held on Wednesday mornings at Pro Health. For more information, call Judy at 537-6277.

There is also a 24 hour AIDS hotline. The number is 1-800-235-2331. The teen line number is 617-534-5700. A complete directory of AIDS services and hotline numbers is available by calling 632-1350.

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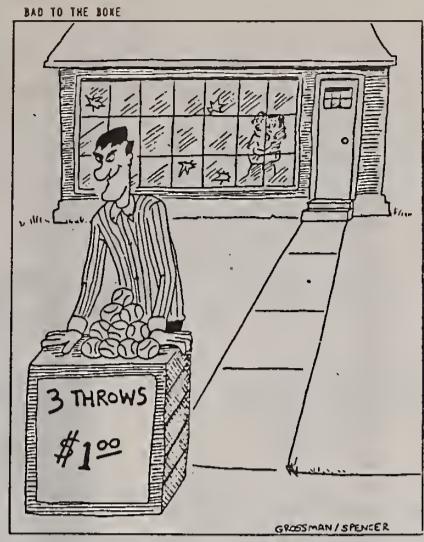
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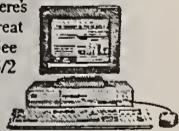


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ARTS & ENTERTAINMENT

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April 17, 1991

THE STROBE

O-Positive entertains 300+

by Dan McDermott and Tim Kane
by Strobe staff

O-Positive, a Boston based band, performed on April 5th in the Fitchburg State College Commuters Cafe. O-Positive displayed many diverse styles apparent in each individual musician. A combination of bands such as R.E.M. meets UB40 meets the Cure provided a base style for O-Positive to build upon. These somewhat mundane styles often bring about controversy, but O-Positive offered their own unique experimental edge.

The usual Pub set up was eliminated for this concert for two reasons; one being the echoing acoustics evident in the Pub, and two the size of the room. Furious George opened the concert with less than average R.E.M. rip-off originals. One cover Furious George attempted to belt out was Jimmy Hendricks', 'Purple Haze,' and failed.

A new band on campus, The Rope Farmers, had the luxury of using O-Positive's sound system. The Rope Farmers played both original and cover material. Johnny Blade, lead singer for the Rope Farmers held the band together with some impressive vocal chops and stage presence. Zane, Lenin,



Dave Herlihy, lead vocalist for O+, jams for 300 or more FSC students

lead vocalist, expressed a great amount of energy through his sometimes monotone vocals and his nonchalant stage persona, a quality he has maintained since the band's origin. "Our beginning was quite random and accidental, as a result of neighborhood acquaintances. We all wanted to play original rock, and we all wanted to play it here in Boston, it was easier, I guess, to play it all together," said Herlihy.

New drummer, Kenny Hickey related O-Positive's exposure to the music industry. "You can't measure success by radio. Right now we are happily unsatisfied." Hickey did stress the importance of college radio. "College radio is the coolest. It gives you an amazing background, and unveils the music you can't find on professional radio. We owe a lot to college radio," said Hickey.

O-Positive satisfied more than three hundred students present at the gig. The band recently opened for Sinéad O'Connor in promotion of their new album. O-Positive will be entering the studio in the near future to work a new album tentatively titled, "The Song a Day Club." In fact, O-Positive tested the waters out with a few new tunes that night.

Toxic Tom, and Chip known for flag burning stated in the W.X.P.L.'s Explosion Guide, are the adopted names of the band. A tad too unprofessional for an amateur band. Inside the Pub, a giant television screen pumped the The Rope Farmers and O-Positive via video feed from the Commuters cafe. Many students decided to remain in the Pub during the Rope Farmers performance because of the availability of alcoholic drinks being served to of age students by Pub staff and a more social environment.

As O-Positive strapped on their individual instruments, FSC students gulped down their individual drinks and headed out to the Commuters Cafe. The sound mix for O-Positive was distorted but it soon leveled out. Dave Herlihy,

Pulling the reigns on HORSE

by Dan McDermott
Strobe staff

The band called Horse, already carrying an enormous British following, will arrive in the United States behind a powerful debut album, "The Same Sky." This sextet from Glasgow, Scotland is not to be ignored.

Horse is not just the group's moniker; Horse McDonald is the extraordinary vocalist of this soul/pop/rock band. Horse, the singer, has been writing songs since he was 12, before teaming with guitarist and fellow songwriter Angela McAlinden in 1977. Many bands and lineups followed, a progression that led to being signed by

CBS Records in 1986.

Over the years, McDonald and McAlinden added the following members to what is now Horse, the band: Steve Grantley on drums, Brian McNeil on keyboards, Graham Brierton on bass, McAlinden and McDonald. The band's public debut was live on a popular U.K. music program "The Tube," which later led to a Capitol Records contract.

Horse began recording in 1988, and despite obstacles in recording, is ready to release their debut album. "The Same Sky" follows a successful 1989 U.K. tour with B.B. King. During this excursion, McDonald developed difficulties with his voice, delaying recording

until the problem could be overcome. Surgery was necessary to remove a cyst that had developed near his vocal chords.

Seemingly, however, these obstacles have only strengthened the resilience of this collection of talented musicians, headlined by the beautiful and impressive vocal magic of Horse McDonald. In the U.K., Horse has been received with critical raves, and will surely be welcomed here in North America when they debut later this summer. The best, the band promises, is yet to come.

Watch for Horse's debut album, "The Same Sky," in the late summer 1991.

Poetry Review

by Kelly Buskowski
Strobe staff

Sweet Violets

You are brief and frail and blue—
Little sisters, I am, too.
You are Heaven's masterpieces—
Little loves, the likeness ceases.

"Sweet Violets" by Dorothy Parker is the realization of her imperfection through the comparison of violets.

In the beginning she claims that because of her similarities to violets, they are her "little sisters." Parker claims that she too is "brief," meaning simple but beautiful ("beautiful" referring to herself as a person, and not necessarily her physical aspects), and also "frail and blue," indicating that she is kind and compassionate.

But Parker soon discovers that the similarities end at that point. She is not one of "Heaven's masterpieces," or perfect, but rather human.



HORSE - Angela McAlinden, Brian McNeill, Graham Brierton, George Hutchison, and Tony Soave

Strobe File Photo

Dance students display diversity

by Michelle Pouliot
Strobe staff

If you haven't already noticed, Fitchburg State College is attended by some very talented students. This was clearly proved in the "Diversity Dance" performance at Weston Auditorium on April 9.

An event put on by the Dance Club at FSC, the night was a variety show of different dances—some with a message, some just for enjoyment.

The group of entertainers and soloists ranged in experience from first time performers to old hands in the business, but everyone succeeded in showing the audience a good time. Indeed, the audience support was fantastic, and the high levels of their peers' enthusiasm seemed to give the artists that extra charismatic incentive to shine.

"Diversity Dance" was an excellent instrument for getting people involved. Choreographed,

performed, produced, filmed and supported by students, the students at FSC worked together to pull off a great show.

Of particular interest was the "Vogue" dance by Gary Frys, Adriana Nunez, and Mary Ellen Starble to Madonna's song of the same name. But then, to highlight the diversity of the show was the "Is it worth it?" number danced by the Making Dances class to a variety of songs—a student to student message about the affects and worth of war. Soloists Audra Hudson and Kristen Dinan showed their creativity and finesse in choreographing and performing their own modern dance pieces to Gloria Estefan's "Coming out of the Dark" and the love theme from "The Phantom of the Opera."

Above all was the fun factor of the show. Even as the students promoted messages of hunger, homelessness, and war, their dances were creative.

Carol Sickul's "Diversity Dance" program gave students the opportunity



FSC Dance students danced away last Tuesday night in Weston Auditorium

Michelle Long

to exhibit their talents in what they have learned over the year in the Dance Club. Dance classes also participated in the show.

The evening's finale included an encore from all performers doing "the Electric Slide," but the show concluded with very important announcements from Sickul

concerning the status of Massachusetts' state colleges and universities. It was the prime time to do so, as many people were reached in Weston's packed house.

Sickul plans to advise future spring performances like "Diversity Dance," but the possibilities of events like this, could be limited if Fitchburg State were to be

closed or victimized by cruel legislation.

As "Diversity Dance" so successfully proved, a bunch of people can indeed work together for a great cause, reaping positive outcomes—be it a fun cause or a mission.

All College Development Day...

(continued from page 1)

8:30a.m. Percival Lobby: Coffee and programs for the day available.

9:00a.m. Keynote speaker in Percival Auditorium:

Lester A. Fisher, an Associate Professor at the University of New Hampshire with a specialty in Modern American Literature and African-American Literature and Culture. The title of his speech is "The Freedom of Literacy and the Literacy of Freedom."

10:00a.m. A choice of four different hour films for participants followed by a discussion:

1. "Racism 101." A CBS Front Line report which deals with the problems of racism at college campuses. A panel of students will be there to discuss the issues brought up in the film.

2. "Eyes on the Prize." A PBS documentary film which deals with a history of the civil rights movement.

3. "A Class Divided." A film which deals with a famous experiment dividing blue and brown-eyed children in an elementary school class.

4. "A Tale of O." An animated film about being an "O" in a world of "Xs." What is it like to be different in this world?

The above films will be played again at 11:15.

10:00a.m. A talk and workshop with Dr. Selwyn Cudjo, who is a professor and chairperson of the Black Studies Department at Wellesley College. His topic is not yet known and will be announced.

10:00a.m. A participatory workshop limited to 25 seats (repeated at 11:15): Dr. Becky Thompson, a Sociology professor at Fitchburg State College and Michelle Baxter, Programming Coordinator of The Greater Boston regional Youth Council, will present a workshop entitled, "Facing Ourselves and Our Histories." This workshop is for people interested in race and racism on both a personal and institutional level.

11:00-11:15 Transition period.

11:15a.m. Lester A. Fisher, Associate Professor at the University of New Hampshire will do a second speech entitled, "Forms and Themes in African-American culture."

11:15a.m. The four films to be shown at 10:00a.m. will also be played at 11:15.

11:15a.m. The workshop with Becky Thompson and Michelle Baxter will be repeated.

12:15-12:30p.m. Transition period.

12:30-2:00p.m. Lunch for every participant and another speaker: Nathan Rutstein, television producer, professor, and journalist will be the guest lunch speaker. His speech is entitled, "Healing Racism: Education's Role."

2:00-2:15p.m. Transition period.

2:15-4:00p.m. There will be three separate workshops for different segments of the college:

1. Program for the students will be facilitated by Sherri Nickel-Milstone and is entitled "Kaleidoscope." It will be an interactive game where difference brings people together.

2. Program for faculty to be announced.

3. Program for Administrators and Support Staff to be announced.

Gardiner says she would like people to "come away with a better understanding of how we can support and appreciate diversity, while at the same time building and maintaining community." Hopefully, this day can help people make a list of things they will want to accomplish related to diversity and community. This All College Development Day will get Fitchburg State College ready for the theme of the next two Freshman Foundation years which is, "Preparing for the Twenty-first Century: Diversity and You."

SPORTS continued...

Lady Falcons show true team work

by Cheryl Hines
Strobe staff

The Falcon women opened their season with a talent-filled schedule. This young team has talent and strong hitters, but victories have not come easily. Sometimes one great hit can get the whole team going. The Falcon softball team works hard and well together. With time, comes knowledge, and this team needs to age their raw talent. They were victorious against Mount Holyoke College and Eastern Nazarene College through true teamwork.

However, this past weekend the Falcons did not fare very well. A double-header against Worcester State Saturday had them facing the strike-out queen of college softball. The pitcher for Worcester State was Ms. Bishop who holds the record for most strikeouts in the league at 123. She pitched both games and truck out 20 hitters combined. The Fitchburg

women fell short in their defense and could not get a break in their offense due to great pitching. Worcester State had a great record in 1990 (25-10) so beating FSC (9-3) in game one and (4-0) in game two was not too far out of their reach for their talent still remains.

In the heat of Sunday afternoon, the Falcon women had to travel to another doubleheader, this time against Salem State. Salem State had a record of 20-8 in the 1990 season and still has a very strong team. Salem State defeated the Fitchburg women (4-0) in game one and (6-0) in game two. The heat and talent of the opposing team were too much for the Falcons thus they were defeated.

Currently, FSC holds a record of (2-6) all around and (0-4) in the state college division. The season has just begun and this young team is learning more everyday and has the talent to do well for the remainder of the season.

Football sign-ups

Sign ups for Fitchburg State's football team will be held on Thursday, April 25, at 4:30p.m. in Percival Auditorium. Coach Vin Keough is optimistic about the up-coming season.

"I'm really looking forward to it. I think we'll have a good team, but I also know there are some kids on campus who can help us out," says Keough.

So remember, any of you high school football stars - Thursday, April 25, 4:30p.m. in Percival Auditorium. Sign up and lead the Falcons to victory.

Look for DAY IN A LIFE next week

SPORTS

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April 17, 1991

THE STROBE

FSC's weekend swept

Baseball team splits with Worcester, loses two to Salem

by Mike Ippolito
Strobe staff

Fitchburg State's baseball team had a weekend they would rather forget on April 6 and 7, losing three of four games in back to back doubleheaders against Worcester State and Salem State. FSC's record now stands at 3-6 after splitting with Worcester and being swept by Salem.

Fitchburg began the weekend by splitting Saturday's home doubleheader against Worcester State, winning the opener 6-5 and losing the second game 10-8.

FSC struck for three runs in the first inning of the opener, led by Jon Waldon's solo home run, a 325 foot blast to left field which gave the Falcons a 1-0 lead. Two wild pitches put two men on base for FSC and Steve Pickett drove in Paul Murphy and Dave White with a double for a 3-0 FSC lead. The Falcons added another run in the second inning for a 4-1 lead after Worcester had gotten on the board against FSC starting pitcher John Basile.

The Lancers fought back to tie the game with two runs in the third inning and one in the fourth before

FSC answered in the bottom of the fourth to retake the lead at 5-4. Paul Murphy led the inning for the Falcons with a double and later scored to give the Falcons the lead. After Worcester tied the game 5-5 in the fifth inning, FSC got the winning run in the bottom of the fifth and Basile held the Lancers for the rest of the game to earn the victory for the Falcons.

FSC dropped the second game 10-8, after falling behind 10-0 and trying to fight back in the late innings. FSC trailed 10-0 by the fourth inning and despite scoring four runs in both fourth and the fifth innings, they could not catch the Lancers.

On Sunday, the Falcons traveled to Salem for a pair of games and the results were not what the Falcons had hoped for. FSC dropped the opener 7-1 and the second game 6-1 in two very disappointing games.

In the opener the Falcons got nine hits through the game's seven innings but could not put any runs on the board. Steve Pickett, Dave Shilale and Ryan Mitchell each had two hits for FSC but it was not enough to beat a tough

Salem team.

"We didn't get the big hits when we needed them," said FSC coach John McGuirk. "you can't let a team like Salem off the hook like that."

The second game featured more of the same frustrations for McGuirk and the Falcons. They put nine hits on the board, but could only scratch for one run. Paul Murphy had two hits for FSC and knocked in the team's only run. Once again, however, it was not enough as Brian Kupstas took the loss for FSC.

"Brian pitched excellent for us, but we couldn't do anything to give him support," said McGuirk.

Overall, the weekend was disappointing, and McGuirk hoped his team can capitalize on its chances in upcoming weeks.

"I'm disappointed because I felt we could have swept Worcester and won at least two against Salem if we had just gotten a few key hits," said McGuirk.

The Falcons have shown signs of their potential and FSC baseball fans hope they can turn last weekend around and continue to show how good this team really is.

Track teams strut their stuff

by Linda Sharron
Strobe staff

It was a balmy spring day on Saturday April 6th, when the Fitchburg Men's and Women's Track Teams strutted their stuff in the FSC Coed Track and Field Invitational, held at FSC's home facility.

While this was a nonscoring meet, Fitchburg showed its competitive spirit by outdoing the opposition across the board.

Fitchburg women dominated; they outplaced all challengers representing fourteen different schools including Bates College and archrival Salem State. Overall FSC women took eighteen places, including twelve top-three slots. Not to be outdone, the FSC men took nine combined first and second places, outdistancing their nearest rival, Colby College, in these top scoring positions.

Dynamic sprinting powered teammates Jeff Moda and John Caovette through 100 meter trials, semis, and finals as they not only placed in this event, but also placed a one two punch respectively in the 200 meter dash. More double trouble for the opposition came from Chris Smith, with a winning leap of 13'9" in the pole vault, and Scott McCabe, who took third. Mike Digris and Eric Lagoy are another pair who combined for a two-three combination in the triple jump.

Racking up more first places for the Fitchburg men were Jason Cullinane, the strong favorite in the 3000 meter steeplechase (9:34.2), Rodney Simuel, who mastered the 400 meter run (50.2), and 4 X 400 relay team, which whipped second place Colby by seven seconds with a time of 3:26.2.

Another up-coming contender is 400 meter runner John Graves. Distance ace Fran Hernandez, running a surprise 1500 meters, placed a strong second; Rich Carabba, another hard working man pulled a fourth in the 5000 meters, disregarding the heat of the afternoon sun. He shouted words of encouragement to Linda Glover who brought home a decent second place finishing for the FSC women in the same race, men's and women's sections being combined.

The FSC women's attack featured across the board depth and versatility; sprinting strength alone resulted in a cluster of top finishes. The women's 4 X 100 relay team, having practiced all week, won their breath taking race by a mere 1/10 of a second,

with a time of 51.5. Maureen Horan and Joan McCarthy, part of that winning effort also placed high in both the 200 meter dash and the 100 meter finals. Maureen ran to a third and second place finish, while Joan took seventh and third respectively. Rounding out the 200 meter power event was speedster Maritza Knight, who took second (27.4) and Tracy Lapointe (sixth at 28.9). Lapointe doubled in the high jump, snagging fourth place with a leap of 4'10".

She was joined by newcomer Jessica Jones, who was close behind at 4'8". Dynamic efforts were also posted by Melissa Lombard and Donna Guilfoyle, who took third and fourth place in the 800 meter event, running 2:28.8 and 2:34.5 respectively. Rounding out the running field were hurdlers Conn White, who placed fourth in the 110 meter hurdles (17.0) and Debbie Armour, sixth in 400 meter intermediate hurdles and third in the triple jump (30' 7 3/4").

Field events were also strong for the women; perennial stars Wendy and Heather Ewing hammered all comers in the hammer throw, with tosses of 146'1" and 137'; the closest competitor was 11 1/2 feet behind. Heather also came through in the discus, with a nifty toss of 110'7" for third place. Patty Wagner doubled in the shot put (seventh place) and javelin (fourth place), adding depth and talent to the team effort.

Men's coach Jim Sheehan and Women's coaches Jim Jellison and Lori Eckland were not only very pleased with their athletes' efforts, but also with the cooperation which the teams and volunteers showed during the setting up and closing down of this event. The athletes also appreciated the crowd of spectators.

The FSC women square off again at home on the weekend of April 20, as they host the first MASCAC Championship against rival state schools. This championship, only recently relocated to FSC, will begin at 11:00 a.m. Their final home meet will be Sunday April 28 - the FSC Women's Invitational, slated to begin at 10:30 a.m.

The men's MASCAC, scheduled for Saturday, April 27 at 11:00 a.m., will also be held at the FSC facility.

Even though it will be next year before the FSC men's and women's teams combine forces again, the track team's spirit is here to stay. The teams will certainly work for mutual continued success.



Rob Comeau

FSC student plays volleyball

More SPORTS on page 11